

1814 Art militaire N-5
INFANTRY DRILL 1896

FIELD AND BRIGADE MOVEMENTS

AND

INFANTRY IN ATTACK

INSTRUCTIONS AND REMARKS FOR USE IN THE
CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION

CANADIAN MILITIA, 1899



OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1899

Bibliothèque,
Le Sénat de Québec
3, rue d'York
Québec, A. C. 101

X-1324



INFANTRY DRILL--1896

M. Dagneau
Capt.
No 2. Co. 17 B.

FIELD AND BRIGADE MOVEMENTS

AND

INFANTRY IN ATTACK

INSTRUCTIONS AND REMARKS FOR USE IN THE
CAMPS OF INSTRUCTION

CANADIAN MILITIA, 1899



OTTAWA
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
1899

i
i
l
l
t
c
s
l
l
l
2
h
s
z
i
c
c
C
c
s
l
i
3
h

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. The Major General Commanding is aware that the Infantry of the Dominion have not received training or instruction beyond Squad or Company Drill, during the last few years. In other words the Infantry instruction has been limited to the elementary stages of military training. The Major General Commanding intends, during the ensuing drill season, to rely upon the military aptitude of the Canadian Troops, and after some preliminary Instruction in training Squad and Company Drill to commence Battalion Drill within reasonable limits.

2. The difficulties of handling troops in battalion and brigade are not great, if the troops themselves are (1) *silent*, (2) *steady in the ranks* and (3) *fairly conversant with squad and company drill*. The real difficulty lies in the want of knowledge and experience on the part of the senior officers, the staff and the regimental officers. Having the foregoing points in view the Major General Commanding desires that the very earnest and careful attention of officers (and also of Non-Commissioned Officers) be directed to those portions of Parts III and IV of Infantry Drill, 1896, which are mentioned in the accompanying Schedule.

3. Three distinct movements are added and published herewith for the information of all concerned, which

embrace the essentials of battle training for the Infantry soldier, viz :—

A rapid method of occupying a given position by a body of Troops of any size.

An illustrative Attack Formation.

A change of position in broken ground or in face of an enemy by a body of Troops of any size.

It will be found that if the principles involved by the above, and if the details of Infantry Drill, Parts III and IV, referred to in para. 2, are well understood, Infantry can be manœuvred in large as well as in small bodies with *ease, rapidity* and *silence*.

4. In order to ensure that “steadiness under arms” which has won for British Infantry the name of being the best in the world, it is imperative that all ranks when called to and standing at “attention” should stand absolutely immovable. By the strict observation of this rule it is alone possible to control and steady troops in the moments of crisis and danger. As it is so important that all troops remain absolutely steady and immovable at “attention” it becomes necessary that Officers should not keep their commands standing at “attention” for a moment longer than necessary.

Companies (or parties of men) moving in succession into column or an alignment will accordingly “stand at ease” at once after taking up their dressing.

Companies (or parties of men) moving simultaneously into column or into an alignment will for like reasons remain at “attention” until told to “stand at ease” by the Commanding Officer.

I.

COMPANY DRILL.

*Infantry Drill, 1898—Part II Complete—To be Studied
and well understood.*

ADDITIONAL MOVEMENTS.

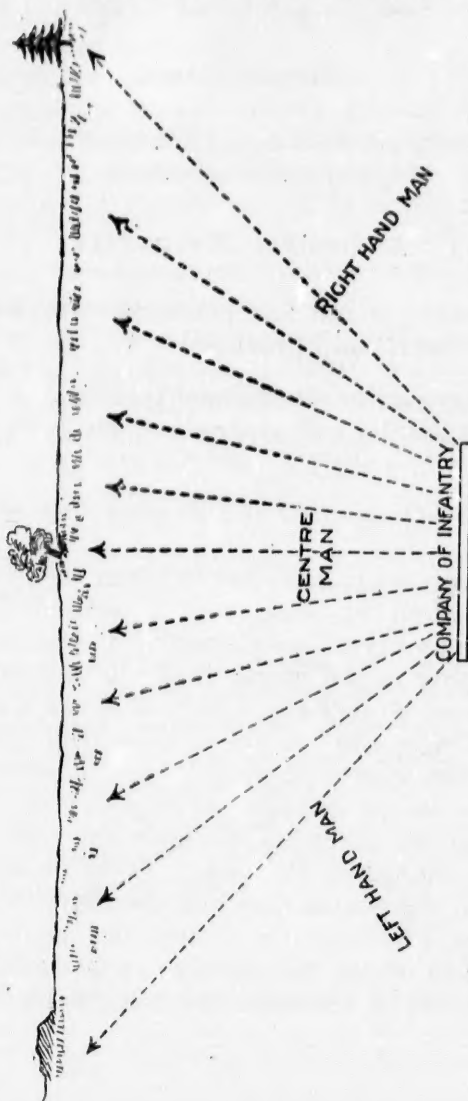
The following simple and practical formations will be mastered in detail and practiced—

- (a.) The Occupation of a defined position.
- (b.) The Attack by a Company and Battalion.

(a.)—Occupation of a Defined Position.

This movement is intended to teach the quickest and simplest method for occupying a defined position by any given number of men whom it is desired to place simultaneously in the Firing Line. The following procedure will be carried out. The Officer in Command of the Section, Company or larger unit will select in the centre of the given position some conspicuous and definite object, for example a rock, a tree or a bush ; he will similarly select objects upon the right and upon the left of the given Position. These objects will be indicated to the centre man and the flank men respectively of the Sections or Companies etc. which are required, and when thoroughly understood by them, and by the rest of the men, the responsible officer will give the order.

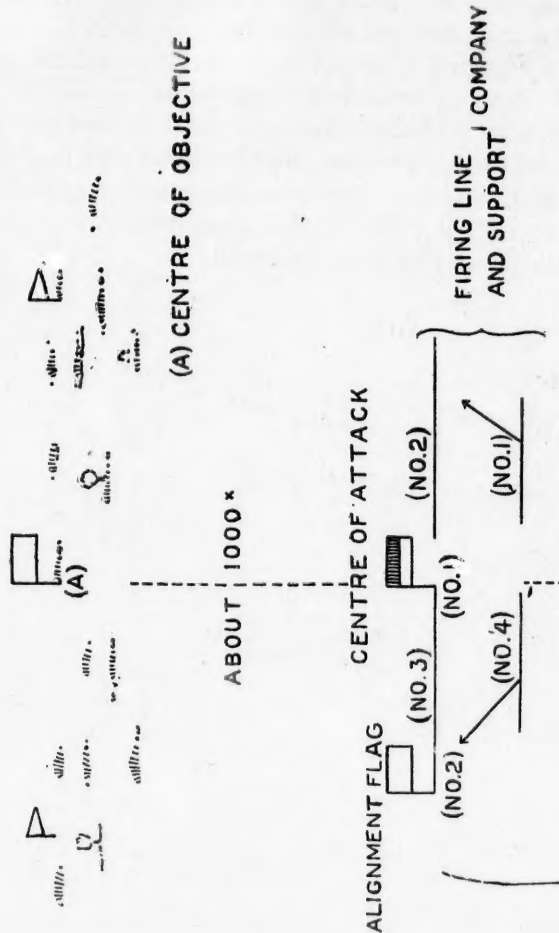
"Double—March."
"From the Centre—extend."
"Occupy the Position indicated."



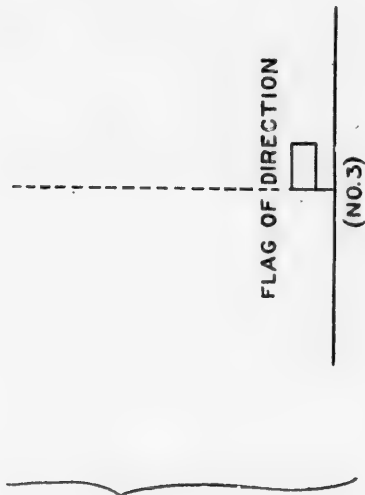
(b.)—*The Company in Attack.*

See remarks on "Attack." Part V. Sec. 124 and 125. The following method of conducting an Attack, applicable to a Section, Company, Battalion and Brigade, is intended for *instructional purposes only*. Troops who have had such insufficient opportunities of training in drill and manœuvre as the Canadian Militia, can not be expected to put in practice the principles laid down in Infantry Drill 1896, without somewhat more defined instruction than are found therein.

Careful attention is directed to the Diagram Published herewith.



1ST LINE



NO 1 CENTRE OF ATTACK

NO 2 ALIGNMENT FLAG

NO 3 FLAG OF DIRECTION

9

RESERVES / COMPANY

A position for attack will be selected and marked out with flags, and in that defined position a *Centre Objective* will be indicated.

In the firing line a *Centre of Attack*, usually the right of the unit of direction will be marked by a small black and white hand flag. An *Alignment hand Flag* will also be placed on the left of the *Centre of Attack*. A hand flag of Direction will also be placed 200 yards in rear of the *Centre of Attack*.

The above 3 flags under the direction of a Staff or Regimental Officer, will constitute the base points of the attacking line. This Officer will look to the Officer Commanding the Unit, in the case of an attack by a single Battalion Lt.-Col. Comdg, or in the case of an attack by the whole Brigade to the Brigadier and he will ensure that the alignment marked by the *Centre of Attack flag*, and *Alignment flag* is parallel to the defined position for attack and that the directing flag is in prolongation of the *Centre Objective* and the *Centre of Attack*.

The Unit of direction will conform as far as possible to the above mentioned flags, and the whole of the first line, viz: firing line, supports, and reserves, will so far as circumstances of ground or other exigencies of the attack allow, conform to the general alignment indicated by the flags in question.

It will be observed by the above plan that the Officer Commanding the attack will be able to control the whole of the units of the attack in the earlier stages of the development of an attack, and is able if necessary, to change the objective, or to change the front of the attack before the Troops are committed to decisive action. This latter manœuvre will be frequently practiced during the Brigade Training.

A similar system can be adopted in conducting a retreat.

II.

BATTALION DRILL.

Infantry Drill—Part III—The following paragraphs will be studied, and thoroughly understood.

Section 76—General Rules—Read 1 and 2 paragraphs.

Battalion in Line.—Consider carefully and master the details given in Plate VIII (p. 86).

Battalion in Column.—Consider carefully and master details in Plate IX (p. 87).

Section 77—The advancing and retiring in line and column present no difficulty as they have been learned in Company Drill.

Section 78—*Line passing obstacles by forming fours.*

—This movement is practically that which is necessitated by change of Position, as given in Part IV. Brigade Drill. Plate XIII.

Section 79—*Column into Line* paras. 1, 2 and 3.—These movements have already been mastered in Company Drill.

Section 80—*Line into Column.*—These movements have already been mastered in Company Drill.

Section 84—*Column deploying into Line* paras. 1 and 2.

Section 85—*Column closing to Quarter Column* para. 1.

Section 86—*Quarter Column opening to Column* para. 1.

Section 88—*Column changing direction.*—Already mastered in Company Drill.

Sections 89 and 90—*Quarter Column wheeling.*

Sections 91 and 93—*Changing Ranks and moving to a Flank in fours.*—These movements have been already mastered in Company Drill.

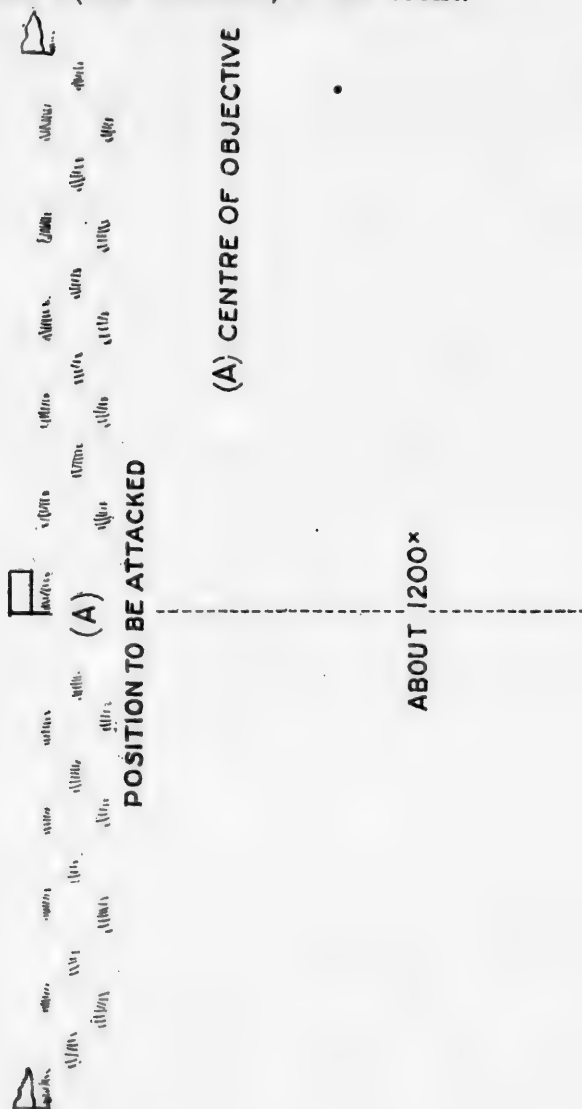
Section 95—*Simple Echelon.*—Para. 1.

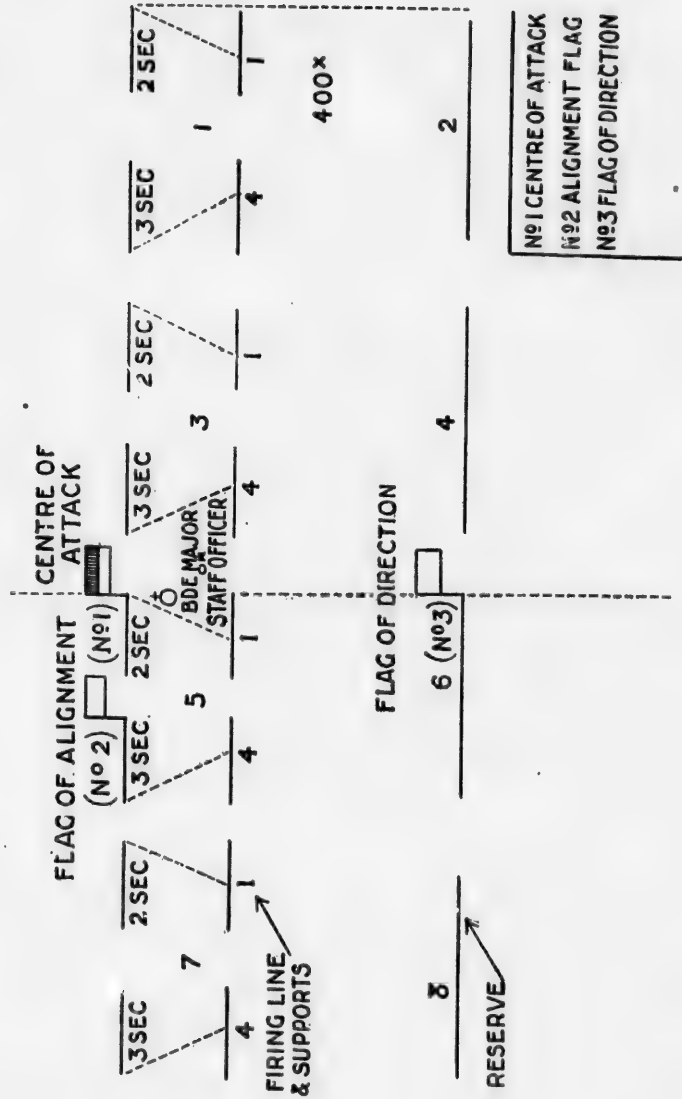
Section 96—*Line from Echelon.*—Para. 1.

The Battalion in Attack.

The arrangement of Flags marking the Centre of the Enemy's Line, the Centre of Attack, alignment and

direction as given on sheets 4 and 5. The Attack is most simply done by Battalions in Line, the Companies being brought into position by the Command "Right Companies (odd Numbers) to the Front."





Change of position for a Battalion.

Markers will invariably be used in a change of position.

"Change Position, Left (or Right)—Forward."—On the command, the mounted points gallop out and take up a position, the right (or left) point will be the point of appui, and the left (or right) point the distant point of the new alignment.

"Battalion—Form Fours Right (or left), By Companies, Left (or right) Wheel, Quick—March."—Each Company will be led by its guide the Shortest way on its own marker.

The markers double out and take up their points when their Company is some 50 paces from the new alignment, being dressed by the mounted point.

"No. Company, into Line Front Form, Halt, Right (or left)—Dress." *"Eyes—Front."*—When within 2 paces in rear of the new alignment the Captain of each Company gives the Command as stated.

"Steady."—On the word "Steady" the markers and mounted points fall in.

The Battalion may be brought up to the new alignment in any of the following formations at the discretion of the C.O. viz: by Fours, in Quarter Column, in Column or in any other way.

Vide Plate XIII. Infantry Drill, Part IV. It will be observed that the above detailed instructions for this movement apply in principle to bodies of Troops of any size.

III.

BRIGADE DRILL.

Infantry Drill—Part IV—To be studied and thoroughly understood.

The change of position will be applied to the Brigade upon the same principles as laid down above for a battalion.

On the Order from the Brigadier, the mounted points gallop out, and are covered by the Brigade Major.

On a signal from the Brigadier, the Commanding Officers then move off toward the new alignment.

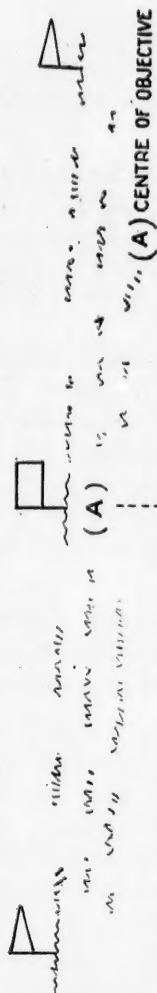
When all the dressing is completed the mounted points are dismissed by the Brigade Major.

Markers will be used for the Brigade, as in the Battalion movement.

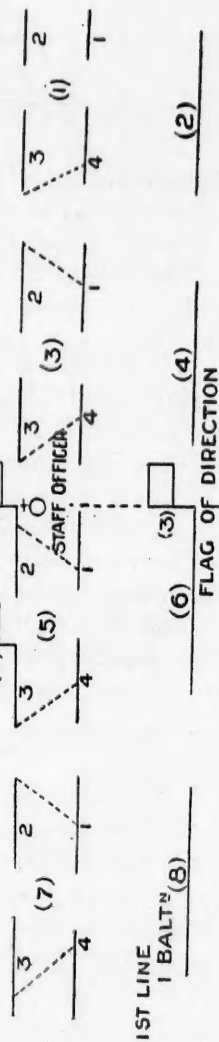
The system of signals between Brigadier and Officer Commanding Battalion will be explained and illustrated so as to insure uniformity and similarity of movement.

BRIGADE IN ATTACK.

The same principles will be adopted for instructional purposes as laid down above for the Company and Battalion.



ALIGNMENT FLAG CENTRE OF ATTACK



(2)

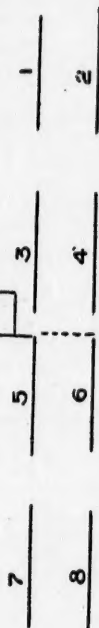
(4)
FLAG OF DIRECTION

(6)

2

2ND LINE
1 BALTY

N01 CENTRE OF ATTACK
N02 FLAG OF ALIGNMENT
N03 FLAG OF DIRECTION



17

3RD LINE
1 BALTY

